TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

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GENERAL COUNSEL

RO-659

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January 25, 1993

FILE # ML-24359-99

Dan Morales Attorney General P. O. Box 12548 Austin, Texas 78711-2548

Re:

General Attorney Opinion on the First Amendment -

Separation of Church and State Clause

Dear Mr. Morales:

Please find enclosed correspondences from Americans United for Separation of Church and State concerning Texas Southern University's practice of having the traditional opening invocation. The issue has been raised as to whether Texas Southern University violates its First Amendment responsibility of government neutrality in religion by providing invocations during convocations, commencement, ceremonies and other official events. Therefore, the Attorney General's Opinion is requested in this matter of importance.

If I can be of further assistance, please call me at (713) 527-7950. Your assistance is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Caliph Johnson

Interim General Counsel

CJ:grt

Encl.